

Ministère de la culture et de la communication

Concours externe et interne de Chargé(e) d'études documentaires

Lundi 4 juin 2012

Epreuve écrite d'admission de langue étrangère :

L'épreuve de langue est écrite et consiste en un résumé (au tiers) en français sans dictionnaire (sauf pour le latin) d'un texte rédigé dans l'une des langues suivantes (choix exprimé lors de l'inscription)
langue ancienne : latin ; langues étrangères vivantes : allemand, anglais, espagnol, italien.
(durée : 2 h ; coefficient : 1).

ANGLAIS

Ce document comporte 2 pages au total

Britain's Yob Culture

A. At last something's being done to curb anti-social behaviour in Britain.

B. I suppose you're referring to the government's latest plan to crack down on Britain's yob culture.

A. Of course. Do you realise that on a single day last month there were 66,000 reported incidents of anti-social behaviour? People are begging, dropping litter, starting fights, being rowdy, vandalising property or committing some other so-called « low-level » offence once every two seconds. These offences cost the taxpayer a lot of money: public agencies spend about £3.5 billion a year just clearing up the mess caused by such vandals.

B. I can't say I'm surprised. In fact, Britain sets a standard for yobbish behaviour that few developed nations can match. Britain's football hooligans are the most violent and abusive in Europe and its holidaymakers are rapidly acquiring a similar notoriety: some resorts in Greece are littered with drunken, debauched british youths. I've often been to the US and what always strikes me when I get back is how squalid Britain has become. People are so self-absorbed they don't even notice the existence of others. Many don't seem to understand that in public places one has the obligation to behave in ways that others find acceptable. Take a late-night commuter train out of London and you'll find yourself jammed in a dirty compartment with

slovenly people eating hamburgers, dropping rubbish and yelling into mobile phones. Contrary to their image, americans have always struck me as more polite and considerate than the British.

A. The government hopes to reduce anti-social behaviour by giving local authorities greater legal powers to penalise offenders and by copying american initiatives. Begging will become a formal offence and local councils will have the power to stop the payment of housing benefits to rowdy tenants. The government's also urging cities to clean up graffiti and remove abandoned cars more rapidly – the idea is that neighbourhoods deteriorate quickly if even minor infractions of the law are tolerated. In Liverpool there's a pilot « community law » scheme which tries to curb bad behaviour by co-ordinating the efforts of police officers, social workers, local leaders and judges.

B. If you really want to tackle anti-social behaviour in this country you have to understand its root cause; inadequate socialisation exacerbated by alcohol abuse.

A. You're right about the alcohol. Britain now tops the league of Europe's binge drinkers. We should ban alcohol advertising and sharply tax all of these products aimed at the young.

B. What's wrong in my opinion is that many people in Britain no longer behave according to social norms, and they will only do so if there's a threat of instant fines. Inculcating socially acceptable behaviour is the responsibility of both families and schools, but neither is up to the task. More and more couples are failing to fulfil their duties as parents, which is putting a great burden on teachers. Few british schools have the resources to deliver an effective academic education, let alone asking teachers to be effective ethical guides.

A. So what's the solution? How can we stop the rot ?

B. We won't find a solution until we change the « me first, forget the others » attitude which is more and more prevalent today. This attitude is brought about by messages encouraging instant personal satisfaction. Look at all the TV ads urging you to satisfy your desire to have this product or that service, to put yourself first. People who act in an anti-social manner are doing just this, putting themselves first, but in circumstances that harm others. A society which relies heavily on markets must work hard to ensure that people also acquire a social conscience.